

E. PALESTINE VILLAGE COUNCIL 5/22/2017 85 N. MARKET ST 7PM

Mayor Zuch called the meeting to order. Present was Mr. Cohen, Mr. Elzer, Mr. Todd, Mr. Tyger, Mr. Walker and Mr. Yokley. Also present was Village Manager Pete Monteleone, Law Director Dave Powers, Finance Director Traci Thompson, and Clerk Misti Martin. The May 8th Street Committee and Regular meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Walker seconded by Mr. Cohen. All in favor. There were no department reports with the exception of an informational report provided by Officer Milliken that lists current zoning violations. Mr. Elzer made a motion to approve the report seconded by Mr. Yokley. There were no agenda items or Clerks Report

MAYOR: Mayor Zuch stated she attended the Touch-A-Truck sponsored by EPFD and that it is a great free event for the community.

MANAGER: Manager Monteleone stated he met with ODOT to review a Safety Grant application for a new traffic signal at Rebecca and Market St, the meeting went well and now we just wait. Monteleone mentioned needing a Development Committee meeting, Mr. Elzer called the meeting prior to the next regular meeting on June 12 at 6:30. He stated he gave Council a copy of a letter of support from Senator Joseph Schiavoni for a grant application for our water project. He stated he received a copy of the WW Contract with MS Consultants and will be moving forward with it. He stated he found the LMI study that was completed four years ago is still in effect for the next year. The Safe Routes to School Grant is still moving forward. He stated he is working with Endia Wisser for photos for the new website and that the meter replace project is approximately halfway done. The pool is currently holding water; they had a leak detection company look at the pool. He said we made repairs in house. In the past it has taken eight or nine hundred thousand gallons to fill the pool because it was losing so much water but this it took only around four hundred forty thousand gallons. They are working on refurbishing the volleyball courts with a grant from Rotary. Monteleone stated the road in front of the park pool has been paved and looks great and the rest of Village paving is slated to begin June 5. Mayor Zuch stated recycling bins have been moved beside Rockenberger Auto during the Street Fair.

LAW DIRECTOR: NO REPORT

STREET: Mr. Walker stated he is pleased with the paving being done by ODOT (Shelley Company). He also stated Village paving will begin June 5, the durapatcher has been out and chip and seal program is slated for July.

SAFETY/PARK/REC/CEM: Mr. Cohen stated the Park Board met and discussed planning for July 4th and also talked about putting in disc golf at the park.

DEVELOPMENT: Mr. Elzer reminded everyone of the Development meeting that was scheduled for June 12 at 6:30 and thanked Larry & Sandy Wales along with all of the volunteers for DOG Days. He also thanked the Chamber for all of their work on the upcoming Street Fair.

UTILITY: NO REPORT

FINANCE: Mr. Tyger stated he had a few things to address in reference to comments made by Sgt. Johnson at the last meeting. He stated that debt service is down \$2,322,000.00 since 2012 and there has been a decent increase in income tax since last year. In reference to contract negotiations Mr. Tyger said they gave the Teamsters rep the Village financial info to review and they came back saying the 2% increase was a fair offer, Tyger said they didn't "pull the wool over anyone's eyes". Mr. Cohen said Sgt Johnson made it sound like they just told them the numbers when in reality the representatives asked to see the books and they were given them to review; they came and agreed that the 2% was fair. Park Manager Jerry Coblenz stated the Teamsters were told that the offer was all the money the Village had at that time and also that they may have given the financial info to the Teamsters Rep but no one else saw it. Mr. Tyger said at the first negotiation meeting the Village offered 1% but asked to come back at another date after looking at

the financials and see how things were going; at that next meeting they were then able to offer another 1% for a total of 2%. Coblenz said he agreed with that statement but now 7 months later you are giving away more money. Fireman Jon Rettig stated fire wages are negotiated by the Village Manager & Fire Chief; they had employees take pay freezes. Mr. Tyger stated that since the 2011/2012 budget the Village has invested \$1,091,000.00 in fire equipment (trucks/turnout gear, etc). He said for the PD purchases include glocks, computers, full time officer on drug task force, repairs to boiler rooms, purchased radios, a new phone system, updates to the 911 system, an bullet proof vests. Mr. Cohen stated that in the last four years council has voted to purchase four new trucks and an ambulance for the FD at a cost of \$1,091,809.15, approximately 30 days ago Council voted to buy the FD a new tanker truck at cost of \$275,000.00. Mr. Tyger stated the general fund is stagnant but so has the income tax but we do well keeping on budget. FD member Jon Rettig stated this Council did not vote to buy that equipment, this community voted in an extra levy to purchase that equipment, the levy was to supplement the general fund and this community could also fail that levy if they choose. Mr. Cohen stated that the simple truth is nothing gets purchased without the approval of Council.

VISITORS: Erica Wilson, John & Dot Herbert, Brad & Chris Wilson, Shirley Wilson, Jon Rettig Jr., Jerry Coblenz, Denise Powers, John Davis, Robert Harris, Mary Beth DiCello, Chief Kevin Dickey, Terri Ward and Katie White.

VISITORS COMMENTS ON CURRENT LEGISLATION: In reference to Ord. 11-2017 Erica Wilson stated that poultry isn't considered as livestock anymore because chickens have the ability to be pets, and to not be slaughtered. Mr. Cohen said chickens are a big part of this issue but the larger problem was find this gap in the zoning code, the code allows livestock in certain areas but it doesn't specify what livestock is. This ordinance will fill in a large gap in the zoning code; he said there is nothing that would prohibit Council from down the road passing legislation that would allow chickens along with rules and guidelines for keeping them. Shirley Wilson asked if the livestock ordinance passed if that meant chickens were out, and Mr. Elzer said yes. In reference to the wage ordinance and the Water & Sewer increases, Mary Beth DiCello stated this time last year she questioned the poor condition of the park with high grass. She stated she was told there was no money and not enough personnel, and this year she read we will not be getting summer help, but now Council is giving existing personnel \$3000 increases. She feels that money could do a lot of work at the Park; \$9000.00 is six months pay for a minimum wage employee. She feels the Park looks better this year than it did last year but that is because of free labor from DOG Days, but it still has a long way to go. She stated she took a group of high school kids there and it was horrendous, there was garbage everywhere and grass and weeds needed cut all over. She also stated Boatman Cemetery was in bad shape with grass clippings. She stated as a tax payer she would like to see her money reinvested in the community and the park as opposed to additional wages for existing employees. Jon Rettig asked in reference to W & S rate increases if anyone took into account an increase in revenue from the new meters functioning more accurate before a figure was chosen to increase the rates. Monteleone said yes, that 7% is the projected increase in revenue from the meter replacement. Mr. Rettig asked if that 7% increase in revenue would have been enough to do some of the upgrades at the water plant without increasing rates. Finance Director Traci Thompson stated she estimated around a \$50,000.00 increase, she stated that revenue is going to help pay for the water meters, the proposed \$2.00 increase on the agenda tonight is for the upgrades at the water plant. In reference to the sewer rate increase, Mr. Rettig said we took the engineers advice to increase the sewer rate, he asked why we didn't take their advice three years ago and build the equalization basin when it would have been cheaper; Mr. Elzer said they didn't want to build the basin because it doesn't solve the problem. Mr. Rettig said he agrees it doesn't fix it but it does mediate it. Mr. Davis asked if it was correct that with the new meters if there is a leak or break that it would send a signal out and Monteleone said yes.

LEGISLATION: Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 11-2017 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance amending section 1240.06 (44) of the**

codified ordinances of the Municipality of East Palestine Ohio by interlineations and renumbering current subsections of said ordinance. Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 11-2017. Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-n, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mr. . Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y. 5-1 to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 12-2017 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance establishing water service charges for the village of East Palestine, Ohio. Such charges to be used for the operation, maintenance and replacement of the treatment system and for debt service.** Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 12-2017. Mr. Elzer-n, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mr .Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr .Cohen-y.5-1 to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 13-2017 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance increasing the base sewer rates.** Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 13-2017. Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-n. 5-1 to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 14-2017 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance authorizing a \$3000.00 wage increase retroactive to January 1, 2017 between the Village of East Palestine (employer) and the Village Manager, Clerk of Council, and the Finance Director.** Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord. 14-2017. Mr. Tyger-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-n. 5-1 to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 15-2017 for a third reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance declaring certain village property unneeded, obsolete, or unfit for municipal purposes and authorizing the sale of such property.** Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Ord 15-2017. Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Tyger-y. 6 yes to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 16-2017 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance authorizing the Municipal Manager to enter into a finance agreement with TCF Equipment Finance a division of TCF National Bank and authorizing him to execute on behalf of the village all financing documents as required by TCF Equipment Finance a division of TCF National Bank to secure financing in the principle amount of \$167,546.00 with interest at the rate of 3.48 % per annum for a five year term or 3.56% per annum (for a seven year term) for the purchase of a new TYMCO 435 sweeper on an international chassis.** Mr. Yokley introduced Ord. 17-2017 for a second reading and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An ordinance authorizing the Village Manager to enter into a contract with Best Equipment Co. inc. for the purchase of a TYMCO 435 sweeper on an international chassis.** Mr. Yokley introduced Res. 8-2017 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **A resolution t exclude the approval of the City of Salem which approval would otherwise be required for an alternate method of apportionment of Local Government Fund monies to be distributed in 2018 and declaring an emergency.** Mr. Yokley made a motion to suspend the rules and declare an emergency seconded by Mr. Cohen. Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y. Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Res. 8-2017. Mr. Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y. 6 yes to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Res. 9-2017 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **An emergency resolution approving a new alternate method of apportionment of local Government Fund and local Government Revenue Assistance fund monies to be distributed in 2018.** Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Res. 9-2017. Mr. Elzer-y, Mr. Todd-y, Mr.Tyger-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr. Cohen-y. 6 yes to pass. Mr. Yokley introduced Res. 10-2017 and made a motion that it be read by title only seconded by Mr. Cohen. **A resolution providing for the vehicle acquisition note in the aggregate principal amount of \$176,000.00.** Mr. Yokley called for a vote on Res. 10-2017. Mr. Todd-y, Mr. Tyger-y, Mr. Walker-y, Mr. Yokley-y, Mr .Cohen-y, Mr. Elzer-y. 6 yes to pass.

ADJOURN: Mr. Elzer made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Cohen. All in favor, meeting adjourned.